GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1786
ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005
DISTRICTS WITHOUT DOORDARSHAN AND AKASHWANI KENDRAS
Pathak Shri Brajesh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the districts with no Doordarshan and Akashwani Kendras as on date, State-wise;

(b) whether the Union Government has received requests from the concerned State Governments for setting up of Doordarshan/ Akashvani Kendras;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the time by which all the districts of the country are likely to be linked with Doordarshan/Akashvani Kendras network?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) : While all districts in the country may not have AIR and Doordarshan Kendras, a large number of their Kendras cover some districts in full and some others in part. The existing radio stations and Doordarshan transmitters provide primary grade terrestrial coverage to about 99.13 % and 99.7% population respectively in the country.

In addition, to ensure total coverage a multi-channel facility with a bouquet of 33 TV and 12 radio channels has been provided through "DD Direct-Plus" − free-to-air DTH service of Doordarshan, launched in December, 2004 to provide coverage to hitherto uncovered and under-served areas. It is possible to receive DTH signals anywhere in the country (except Andaman & Nicobar Islands) with the help of a small sized dish receive unit.

(b) to (d) : Requests for setting up of new Radio stations and Doordarshan kendras are received from time to time from various quarters including State Governments and these are given due consideration

(e) In view of the coverage provided by the DTH facility, no new Doordarshan transmitters are envisaged to be set up. Schemes for terrestrial expansion of radio coverage under implementation will be completed during the 10th Plan depending upon approvals and availability of funds.